

モノクロームファクター

Monochrome Factor

VIII 空廻カイリ





Monochrome Factor

Ruru

1 01010101010

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#038: Bonds



IT USED
TO BE THAT
ANY TIME YOU
SAW ME YOU'D
RUN AWAY AS
FAST AS YOU
COULD.

OH,
RIGHT.



BUT
I GUESS,
COMPARED
TO HOW YOU
USED TO BE,
YOU'VE
WARMED UP
...SOTTEN
KINDER,
MAYBE,
RIGHT?

HUHP



I
REMEMBERED
HOW SCARED
I WAS ALL
THE TIME.

"OH, SO THIS
IS WHAT IT
FEELS LIKE
TO BE
STALKED."

WHILE
I WAS
AT IT, I
USED TO
CRY INTO
MY
PILLOW.

WHAT
DO YOU
MEAN,
"WHILE
YOU
WERE AT
IT"?



'CAUSE
YOU WERE
LIKE A
STALKER,
AND I
HATED
YOU.

WHY
ARE YOU
TELLING
ME THIS
NOW?!



I JUST
GOT THIS IDEA
IN MY HEAD
THAT IT'S NOT
GOOD TO HAVE
ME THERE, AND
I COULDN'T
SHAKE IT...

NO, IT'S
NOT THAT
I'M UN-
CERTAIN
OR ANY-
THING.

HONESTLY,
I WAS UN-
CERTAIN
BECAUSE
EVERYTHING
ELSE IS ALL
SO UNCE-
RTAIN...

ARE
YOU
TILL-



HMP
WHAT
ARE YOU
TALKING
ABOUT?



SO...

MAYBE I
SHOULD
DROP OUT
AFTER
ALL...



WHAT
DO YOU
MEAN?

I
REMEM-
BERED
WHEN WE
WERE
TALKING
ABOUT
THIS.

I'M
SURE IT'S
MY OWN
FAULT EV-
ERYONE
AVOIDED
ME WHEN
I WAS
LITTLE!



BEFORE
I MET YOU,
I USED TO
HAVE GHOSTS
AROUND
ME, LIKE MY
SISTER
DID.



BUT IN
MY CASE,
IT WAS DIF-
FERENT... I
KINDA DREW
THEM TO
ME?

IT'S
LIKE...
WHenever
I'M AROUND,
THINGS LIKE
THAT SHOW
UP.



I'M
DANGER-
OUS. I'M
GOING
TO HURT
EVERY-
ONE.



I REMEMBERED WE GOT THERE AND WANDERED AROUND FOR A BIT.



MY SISTER TOLD ME NOT TO GO TO THOSE PLACES...

SO I DIDN'T TELL HER.



YOU KNOW HOW SOME KIDS GET REALLY INTO GHOST STUFF?



I MEAN, I GUESS I DREW THEM TO ME, BUT I'D NEVER SEEN ONE.

SO I FIGURED IT WOULDN'T BE A PROBLEM. I WAS WRONG.

FOR FUN, A GROUP LIKE THAT INVITED ME ALONG WITH THEM TO A HAUNTED SPOT.



AND THE PLACE LOOKED LIKE A HURRICANE HAD HIT IT.

THE NEXT THING I KNEW... THEY WERE ALL REALLY HURT.



AND THEY TOLD ME.

I HAD NO IDEA WHAT HAD HAPPENED, SO I ASKED...



I COULDN'T REMEMBER, LIKE THOSE MEMORIES WERE CUT FROM MY MIND.

WHAT WENT ON IN BETWEEN



...IS
WHAT
THEY
SAID.

"YOU
DID
IT!"



I SEE...
SO THAT'S
WHAT
BROTHER
KOH WAS
TALKING
ABOUT.



I THINK
THAT'S
WHEN
EVERYBODY
STARTED
AVOIDING
ME, PROBA-
BLY.

HA HA...
I DON'T
KNOW WHY
I FORGOT
SOMETHING
SO IMPORT-
ANT.

MAYBE
BECAUSE
IT HADN'T
HAPPENED
FOR SO LONG?



LIKE WHEN
HOMURABI
FORCED THAT
KOKUCHI
ONTO ME...OR
WHEN I WAS
DRAWN INTO
THE SHADOW
WORLD.



BUT I
REALIZED
WHEN I
REMEM-
BERED...

THAT
FEELING
IS SIMI-
LAR.



THE FIRST
TIME I MET
BOOTHED
KOH. WHAT
ACTUALLY
HAPPENED
WAS...

SO I'VE
BEEN
THINK-
ING...



SO THAT
MEANS
IT'S REALLY
DANGER-
OUS TO
HAVE ME
AROUND!



IF WHAT I
THOUGHT
WE'RE
GHOSTS
WERE
ACTUALLY
SHADOWS,
DOESN'T
THAT MAKE
SENSE?



IF IT
COMES
UP, WE'LL
HANDLE
IT.

IT'S
NO BIG
DEAL.



I'M
SICK
OF IT—

CAUSING
TROUBLE
FOR
EVERY-
BODY
LIKE
THAT!



EVEN IF
YOU DO
GO OUT OF
CONTROL, A
WUSS LIKE YOU
COULDN'T KILL
ANYBODY.

DON'T
GET SUCH
A BIG
HEAD,
MORON!



BUT
I COULD
KILL
EVERY-
BODY!

WOULD
YOU JUST
SHUT UP
AND GET
OVER
YOUR-
SELF AL-
READY?!



I'M
TALKING
LIKE THIS
BECAUSE
I AM
LISTENING
TO YOU!
CAN'T YOU
TELL?!



"MORON"
...?

I'M
SERIOUS
HERE!



WHY
DO YOU
NEVER
REALLY
LISTEN TO
WHAT I'M
SAYING
?!



THEN
TRUST
ME!

HUH?
S-SURE
I CAN.

OF
COURSE
I DO!

SERI-
OUSLY!

CAN'T
YOU
TRUST
ME?



WHETHER
YOU GO OUT
OF CONTROL
OR GET
ANOTHER
PARASITE,
I'LL STOP
YOU.



I WON'T
LET YOU
KILL ME.



BELIEVE
IN ME.







...IS
HERE
FOR
YOU.

EVERY-
ONE
HERE...



YUP. IT'S
ACTUALLY
WORSE
WITH THIS
STUFF IF
YOU DON'T
TELL US.

YOU
TRY TO
BE HELPFUL
IN THE
WEIRDEST
WAYS...



THAT'S
RIGHT!

IF IT'S
BUGGING
YOU, YOU
SHOULD'VE
TOLD US.



EVEN IF
YOU DO
GO OUT
OF CON-
TROL, IT'S
FINE.

I CAN
UNDER-
STAND
WHY YOU
WOULDN'T
WANT TO
TALK TO
THIS
PERVERT
ABOUT
IT.

WHAT?
THAT'S
REALLY
MEAN!



DOES
YOUR BIG
BROTHER
REALLY NOT
LOOK LIKE
HE COULD
HELP?







I
REALLY
TRUST
YOU
ALL!













#039: Unlock





WE BOTH TOOK ABOUT THE SAME TIME.

WE NEEDED A WHILE TO GET READY, INCLUDING THE TIME SPENT HEALING KOH. LET'S STAY POSITIVE AND SAY...

YOU HAD TO WAIT WHILE I RECOVERED. I AM SORRY.



HMPH OH, I'M FINE NOW.

BROTHER KOH, HOW ARE YOUR WOUNDS?

NO, NOT AT ALL, SHISUI.

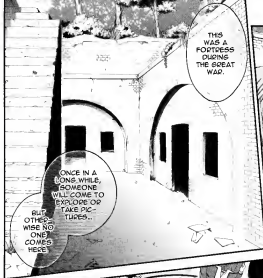


I-I SEE... GOOD WORK.

YES.. I WAS STAYING UP ALL NIGHT TO HEAL HIM, AND THIS MORON WAS BLISSFULLY SLEEPING..

IT WAS DIFFICULT TO RESIST MY URGE TO KILL HIM.

SHIRO-GANE SPENT 24 HOURS A DAY HEALING ME. ★



THIS
WAS A
FORTRESS
DURING
THE GREAT
WAR.

ONCE IN A
LONG WHILE,
SOMEONE
WILL COME TO
EXPLORE OR
TAKE PIC-
TURES...

BUT
OTHER
WISE NO
ONE
COMES
HERE.



SO...

WHAT
IS THIS
PLACE,
SHISUI?



THE
MAGNETIC
FIELDS ARE
VERY STABLE
HERE.

A FOR-
TRESS? WHY A
PLACE
LIKE THIS?



I NEED
THIS LEVEL
OF STABI-
LITY, THIS
MUCH SPACE,
AND FEW
PEOPLE
AROUND.

IN
ORDER
FOR ME
TO OPEN A
GATE WHILE
I AM SO
WEAK...





HAVEN'T
YOU GUYS
BEEN
COMING
AND GOING
THROUGH
GATES THIS
WHOLE
TIME?

I
HAVEN'T
SEEN A
GATE
OPEN IN,
LIKE,
FOR-
EVER!



A
GATE?



BUT I
AM BAN-
ISHED.



THEY
JUST TEM-
PORARILY
OPEN A
HOLE AND
TRAVEL
THROUGH
IT.
ONLY
THE KINGS
CAN OPEN
GATES.

THOSE
AREN'T
GATES.

MY
STATUS
AS KING
OF THE
SHADOW
WORLD WAS
TAKEN BY
HOWE'S
TRAP.

EVEN IF
I WERE
TO OPEN
A GATE OR
HOLE ON
MY OWN,
I WOULD
NOT BE AL-
LOWED TO
PASS.

NORMAL-
LY, ANY
SHIN OR
REI..

CAN USE
A MINOR
SPELL TO
TRAVEL
THROUGH
A HOLE.

THEY'RE
DIFFER-
ENT?

YES...



I SEE...
AND THAT'S
THE GATE
SHISUI'S
OPENING.



YOU CARRY
RYUKO'S
FACTOR, SO
YOU MAY BE
ABLE TO PASS
THROUGH A
HOLE ON YOUR
OWN. BUT SINCE
YOU'RE ALSO
CONTRACTED
WITH ME...

GOT
IT.

I'LL ASK
YOU TO GO
THROUGH A
GATE, JUST
IN CASE.



NO.
YOU AND
AYA-CHAN
CAN'T GO
THROUGH.

I'M
SORRY,
BUT
PLEASE
WAIT
JUST A
LITTLE
WHILE



??



WHAT
ABOUT US
HUMANS?

CAN
WE GO
THROUGH
THE GATE,
TOOP



SO
WE NEED
ANOTHER
KING TO
GIVE US
A PASS-
PORT.



LET US
OPEN IT
WHILE
I STILL
HAVE THE
STRENGTH.

NOW...



I hold
in my
hands the
proof of
my king-
ship.

I
seek the
where
key.



UN-
LOCK.



The
water's
surface that
splits the
seal.



OPEN
the path
to me.







THIS
FIGHT
CAN'T
BE ABOUT
BEATING
HOMU-
RAH.



HOMU



LISTEN,
EVERY-
ONE.

I KNOW
THIS MAY
NOT BE
NECESSARY,
BUT I WANT
YOU TO
HEAR WHAT
I HAVE TO
SAY.



I WANT
YOU ALL TO
REMEMBER
THAT EVEN
THINKING IN
TERMS OF
"ENEMIES"
AND "ALLIES"
AT ALL IS
WRONG.

LIGHT
AND
SHADOW
WEREN'T
SPLIT UP
SO THEY
COULD
FIGHT
LIKE
THIS.

THEY
WERE SUP-
POSED TO
HELP EACH
OTHER TO
WORK TO-
GETHER.



IT'LL
JUST
HAPPEN
ALL OVER
AGAIN.

IF
YOU
DON'T
AVOID
THAT
MIND-
SET...



Y-
YEAH...

AKIRA,
LET'S
GO.



ALL
RIGHT.



WE
KNOW,
SHISUI.

DON'T
WORRY.







CASP

THERE
WE GO.



THOUGHT
SO!

NOT
SO
GOOD...

KUFF
BACK

ARE
YOU ALL
RIGHT,
AKIO?

YOUR
FIRST TIME
CROSSING
THE BARRI-
ER... HOW
DID IT
FEEL?



SO...

ARE WE
IN THE
SHADOW
WORLD
NOW?



IT'D BE
NICE IF
THERE
WAS A BIG
WELCOME
SIGN.

OO
HAYES
EVERY-
THING
WAS CE-
VERSED.

IT
DOESN'T
LOOK THAT
DIFFER-
ENT.

IT'S LESS
RISKY FOR
THEM TO
MOVE AS
SHADOWS
IN THE
SHADOW
WORLD.

EVERY
HUMAN
EXISTS IN
BOTH
WORLDS.

HUH?
AYA AND
KENSO...





OH!

COME TO THINK OF IT, ARIA DOESN'T HAVE A REPLACEMENT. WHAT DO WE DO ABOUT THAT?

HMM, YOU'RE RIGHT.



THIS METHOD IS ONE OF BRUTE FORCE, SO IT WON'T LAST LONG. BUT IT SHOULD BE GOOD FOR A FEW DAYS.



I GET IT. SO YOU ATTACHED A REPLACEMENT AND SEPARATED THEM.

IT'S THE SAME WAY GURU IS ABLE TO EXIST IN OUR WORLD.



MESSING WITH? HUH?

HEY, GET IT AWAY FROM ME!



SCARY

FIRST, YOU TOTALLY COVER ONE SIDE OF THE ORIGINAL WITH A STRETCHED OUT KOKUCHI...

Ah, he he!

LIKE HOW YOU MAKE A FIGURE!



DON'T WORRY!

I'M GOOD WITH MESSING WITH KOKUCHI!



Tadaaaa!

AND SHEEP IT'S DONE!

ROUGH EDGES



THEN YOU TAKE IT OFF THE MOLD..



NOW
THAT WE'RE
FINISHED
WITH THE
PREPARA-
TIONS...



WELL
THAT
SOUNDS
LIKE IT'S
GOT ALL
KINDS OF
PROB-
LEMS...



Right

Leave it
to me



NOW ALL
SHISUI HAS
TO DO IS
STICK A
HAKUA ON
IT ON THE
OTHER SIDE,
AND THE
KOKUCHI
WILL DO THE
REST!



O-
OKAY!

GRU,
PLEASE
OPEN THE
DOOR.



Aaaa
UM...

I-I'M
HOME



THE
ENTRANCE
TO THE
PALACE



LET'S
GO.



IT HAS
BEEN SO
LONG...



WOW!
WHAT
IS THIS
PLACE
...?

WHAT
HAPPENS
IF YOU
DO?

OKAY.

STAY
CLOSE
AND
DON'T
GET
LOST.

YOU'LL
NEVER FIND
YOUR WAY
OUT.

How Thick
Is This Part?

REALLY,
GUYS?

#040: Infinite Corridor





ENTRANCE...?
IT'S MORE LIKE A MAZE...

WHY IS IT SUCH A CONFUSING MESS?

IT FEELS LIKE IT'S GROWING EVEN AS WE SPEAK.



BUT SINCE IT FELL UNDER HOWIRAGI'S CONTROL, IT HAS CHANGED A GOOD DEAL.

WELL... IT DIDN'T USED TO BE THIS COMPLICATED.



WHAF? THEN HOW DO WE GET THROUGH IT?!



YUP, LEAVE IT TO ME!

THAT IS WHY WE HAVE BEEN HERE TO GUIDE US.



I AM THE KING OF THIS PLACE.

BUT I HAVE BEEN GONE SO LONG THAT THE PATH IS UNCLEAR TO ME.



THE
FASTEST
WAY IS
JUST UP
AHEAD.



FOLLOW
ME!



MAN...



THIS
IS ONE
HUGE
MAZE...



IF YOU TALK LIKE THAT, YOU'RE GONNA BE THE FIRST ONE TO GET KILLED.

WHAT?!

MAYBE HE'S REALLY SCARED OF US!



ISN'T HONK-DABI STRONG?

SO IF HE'S USING THIS PLACE TO DEFEND HIMSELF...



THE TRUTH IS THAT I DON'T KNOW WHAT THIS MAZE IS FOR.

HE'S EXPANDING THE SHADOWS AND TAKING ALL THAT POWER INTO HIMSELF.

HE SHOULD HAVE NOTHING TO FEAR, AND YET HE'S BUILT UP THESE MASSIVE DEFENSES...



WHAT DO YOU MEAN?



HMM... MAYBE IT'S NOT A DEFENSE AT ALL?





YOU'RE
RIGHT.
LET'S
GO.

COME ON
COME ON!
THINKING
ABOUT IT
WON'T HELP,
SO LET'S NOT
WASTE TIME
TALKING.

LET'S
GO!

MAYBE
HE JUST
DOESN'T
WANT TO
SEE ANY-
BODY AT
ALL.

SHIRO-
GANE

XIV









GAH!

THERE'S
AN
ARMY OF
THEM!

HUMP
WHAT'S
THAT
SOUND?



WE
CAN'T
FIGHT
THAT
MANY.

RUN!

EEK!





DAMN IT...
MAKING A
MAZE AND
FILLING IT
WITH ATTACK
KOKUCHI..

HE'S SURE
GOING
THROUGH A
LOT OF
TROUBLE



ANY-
WAY,
LET'S
GO.



THEY HAD
HOMERUN'S
SEAL ON
THEM.

HE
MUST BE
ORDERING
THEM TO
ATTACK
US.



WAIT.

UM...



ARE WE
MAYBE...



DON'T SCREAM ABOUT IT—THE KOKUCHI WILL HEAR US!

SHUT UP! I CAN TELL THAT.

THIS IS BAD, AYA!



HUHP HERE?

BUT YOU'RE RIGHT, THIS IS BAD. WHERE ARE WE ANYWAY?



WE'RE TOTALLY LOST!



ANYWAY, WE'VE GOT RUMI WITH US, SO WE'RE FINE.

THE PROBLEM IS THE OTHERS.



WE'RE OFF THE FASTEST ROUTE NOW...

BUT IF WE KEEP GOING ANOTHER 30 MINUTES, WE'LL MAKE IT TO ANOTHER WAY IN.

I SEE. THANKS.



WE DON'T
EVEN KNOW
WHERE WE
LOST THEM...
IT'S CRAZY TO
GO LOOK FOR
SOMEBODY
HERE.

AND IF
WE GET
CAUGHT UP
THE NEXT TIME
IT EXPANDS,
I WON'T BE
ABLE TO FIND
THE WAY
OUT.



WE
SHOULD
GO LOOK
FOR
THEM.

HONESTLY
THOUGH,
EVEN IF WE
GET THERE
ON OUR OWN,
WE WON'T BE
ABLE TO DO
MUCH...



NO!

THAT
IS
NOT A
GOOD
IDEA..



LET'S
GO
AHEAD
ON OUR
OWN..

THEN
WE
HAVE
NO
CHOICE.



IF
HE CAN
FIND A
ROUTE HE
KNOWS,
HE'LL BE
FINE.

YUP,
AND EVEN
WHEN IT
EXPANDS,
THE ROUTES
IN NEVER
REALLY
CHANGE.



WE'LL
HAVE TO
HOPE HE
CAN DO
IT.

SHIRO-
GANE SAID
THE PATH
WAS "UN-
CLEAR," BUT
HE DON'T
SAY "IM-
POSSIBLE."

WHAT?
THEN
WHAT
ABOUT
THE
OTHERS?

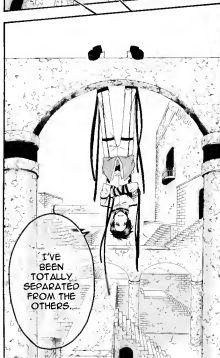


YEAH!

FOR
NOW, WE
DO WHAT
WE CAN.

ANYWAY,
LET'S JUST
PRAY THE
OTHER TWO
ARE WITH
SHIRO-
SANE.

THAT
MAKES
ME FEEL
BETTER.



I'VE
BEEN
TOTALLY
SEPARATED
FROM THE
OTHERS...



WHOA...
THIS IS
NOT
GOOD.



BUT
I CAN'T
EVEN SENSE
THEIR PRE-
SENCE LET
ALONE SEE
THEM.



I'M
LOOKING
PRETTY
HARD FOR
THEM..



HMM...
WHAT
TO DO?

THE
LAST TIME
I CAME, I
HAD RYUKO
WITH ME.

I'M A
GEL, SO
I DON'T
KNOW THE
SCENTS
HERE..



WHERE
ARE YOU
EVERY-
BODY?

MAN,
I'M
GONNA
CRY.

I FEEL
LIKE I'M
GONNA CRY
IF I STOP
TALKING.







WHAT DO
YOU MEAN,
"PROBA-
BLY"?



PROBABLY.



IF
WE KEEP
GOING THIS
WAY, WE MAY
FIND A PATH
I KNOW.



BUT THIS
PLACE IS
OLDER..

THE
PLACE
WE WERE
JUST IN
LOOKED
NEWER,
RIGHT?
IT WAS
PROBABLY
ADDED IN
A RECENT
EXPAN-
SION.



SERIOUS-
LY?

AS IT
STANDS,
THAT FAINT
HOPE IS THE
BEST I CAN
OFFER.



IF WE'RE
CAUGHT
UP WHEN
IT EXPANDS,
WE MAY GET
SEPARATED
OURSELVES.



YES.

BUT WE'VE
GOTTA
HEAD
SOME-
WHERE.
I
GUESS
WE JUST
HAVE TO
TRUST
OUR
LUCK.



DON'T COMPLAIN.
YOU DON'T WANT
TO STARVE TO
DEATH IN
HERE DO YOU?

OH
MAN...IT
KINDA
SMELLS
NASTY.



OF
COURSE
NOT...
BUT IT'S
REALLY
MUSTY...



HMM...

LET'S
GO IN
DEEPEE.

SO
NOW
WHICH
WAY?



WHERE
?!

BY
THE
RIGHT
WALL.



WHAT
?!

?!
SOME-
THING IS
THERE!





YOU...!



THAT'S
MY
NAME.

NANA-
YA.



YES.
I TOOK
AN
ARM...

BUT
SHIRO-
SANE
BEAT
YOU...!

I'M
SURPRISED
HOMURABI
DIDN'T
DESTROY
HIM.

YOU'RE
THAT
SHIN?!





IT'S
HORRIBLE

FINGERS
JAMMED
IN MY
HEAD...

HUHP



BUT
BECAUSE
OF YOU



HAK

KOF



GAHA!

DAMN
IT!

GASP



?!
SOME-
THING
ISN'T
RIGHT!

AKIRA,
GET
BACK!



IT'S
ALL
YOUR
FAULT!



POP









#041: Corrosion













**DAMN,
HOME-
PAST!**

**HE
FAILED
IN HIS
TRAIN-
ING!**

HI...



**WE
HAVE
TO KEEP
GOING
FOR-
WARD.**



**WHAT
DO WE
DO?!**

**WE
DON'T
HAVE A
CHOICE.**



I
IMAGINE
HIS PAIN
NOW IS
WORSE
THAN
DEATH...



AND IT'S
BETTER FOR
HIM THAT HE
BE KILLED.



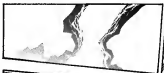
GGRAAAAAA



.....



CLIP















EVEN WITH
MY POWER
HALVED,
LOSING A
CONTEST
OF BRUTE
FORCE ON
THIS SIDE...

IT'S
A BIT
OF A
SHOCK.

...



10 天

11 天

I
CAN'T
TAKE
IT.

IT
HURTS

SO
MUCH...

I DON'T
WANT TO
LIVE...





HYAAA
AAAA!

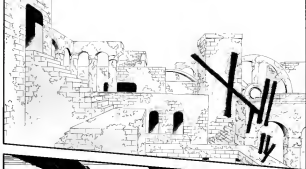




AKIRA!



#042: Dissonance





















BUT I
DON'T
THINK
SO.



YEAH,
YOU
DID.



KILLING
HIM IS
FOR HIS
OWN
BENEFIT.



OR
PERHAPS
NEGOTIATE
WITH HIM TO
GET HIM TO
STOP?



DO
YOU
INTEND
TO SPEND
ETERNITY
SITTING
HERE
PLAYING
WITH HIM?



THEN
WHAT?



I
DON'T
CARE
IF IT'S
HYPOCRISY
OR NOT.
WHAT'S
WRONG
WITH
TRYING
TO SAVE
HIM?



THERE
ARE
THINGS
WE CAN
TRY
BEFORE
WE DECIDE
TO KILL
HIM!

TRY?



WILL YOU
PERHAPS
ATTEMPT
TO RIP
OFF HIS
KOKUCHI?



PLEASE
TRY TO
LIMIT YOUR
HYPOCRISY.



WHETHER
HE FAILED
IN THE TRAIN-
ING, OR NOT,
IT WON'T BE
EASY TO
REMOVE
IT.

DON'T
THINK IT
WILL BE
EASY.
THAT
SPELLING
CREASES HIS
STRENGTH BY
PHYSICALLY
FUSING A
BEING OF
SHADOW,
THE KOKUCHI,
TO HIM.



IF YOU
DON'T
WANT TO
KILL HIM,
I SHALL
DO IT.

BUT
AT THE
MOMENT
I DON'T
EXPECT
YOU'LL
BE ABLE
TO.

PER-
HAPS
IF YOU
WERE
AWAK-
ENED...



NO.



SO
STEP
ASIDE.





I SAID
STEP
ASIDE.



DO
YOU...



SURE,
YOU'RE
FREE FROM
PAIN IF
YOU DIE.

BUT IF
YOU DIE
WHEN
YOU'RE
SUFFER-
ING...

WHAT
DO
YOU
MEAN?



DO YOU
REALLY
THINK IT'S
FOR HIS
SAKE?



DOES
THAT REALLY
MEAN
YOU'RE
BETTER OFF,
DO YOU
THINK?

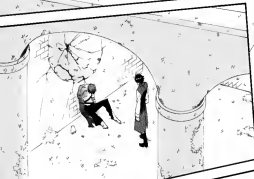


THEN
DO
YOU...

...THINK
STANDING
THERE AND
WORRYING
ABOUT IT
WHILE HE
SUFFERS...

...IS
FOR HIS
SAKE?





UGH
...



SHUT
UP AL-
READY.

AND IT'S A
LOT MORE
DENSELY
COMBINED
THAN IT
LOOKS...

I THINK IT'S
DIFFERENT
FROM WHEN
KENSO, OR HIS
SISTER, HAD A
PARASITE. IS
IT IMPLANTED
DIRECTLY IN
HIS SKIN?

HOW
AM I SUP-
POSED TO
GET THAT
OFF HIM?

IS
THAT THE
PHYSICAL
FUSION
SHIRO
GANE WAS
TALKING
ABOUT?

OKAY!

HAA

I
GUESS
I DON'T
HAVE A
LOT OF
TIME TO
THINK
ABOUT
IT.



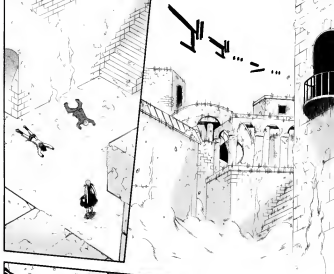


ANOTHER
50 METERS
AND WE'LL
BE OUT
OF THE EX-
PANDING
AREA.

YOU
CAN
DO
IT!











I
DON'T
EVEN
WANT TO
MOVE...
HUH
?!



SHIKKY
?!

IT
CAN'T
BE...

IT'S A
SHADOW
BALL!



WH-
WHAT'S
GOING
ON?

WHERE
IS HE
SHOOT-
ING
FROM?



LISTEN
TO ME!

STOP IT,
SHIKKY!



#043: Collision





YOU'RE
RIGHT. HE
WAS TOO
BIG OF A
JERK TO
BE A KID.



YOU
SHOULDN'T
THINK OF
SHIRRY AS
A KID!

IT'S
DANGER-
OUS TO
BE DE-
CEIVED
BY HIS
LOOKS.



WHOOA!



I'LL
FIGHT,
TOO!

OKAY.

BUT,
YOU
NEED
TO
HIDE.



BUT-



HOW
CAN
YOU
FIGHT
RIGHT
NOW?

YOU'VE
LOST
YOUR
WEAPON
AND
POWERS.
IT'D BE
SUICIDE
TO TRY









THANKS
TO AKIRA,
I'VE
GOTTEN
PRETTY
TOUGH.



YOU
OKAY,
KEN-
GO?

YEAH,
I THINK.



WHAT?



AH!







DON'T
GET THE
WRONG
IDEA.

I JUST
GOT CLOSER
'CAUSE IT
MAKES IT
EASIER TO
HIT YOU.







SHIKOY

AND NOW WHAT? YOU'RE BUDDY-BUDDY WITH THEM?

YOU WERE ALL HYPERED TO GO KILL THEM, AND THEN YOU NEVER CAME BACK.

WHAT THE HECK ARE YOU DOING?

NO... I DIDN'T BETRAY YOU...

HOMURABI WAS VERY DISAPPOINTED.

YOU BETRAYED US.

WHERE WE HAVE THE ADVANTAGE?

HUH? SO YOU ACTUALLY ARE A SPY, AND YOU LEAD THEM HERE?



HOMU-
RABI?
NICE!
THAT'S
NEWS
TO ME.

I JUST
WANT
HOMURABI
TO GO
BACK TO
BEING
NICE, LIKE
HE USED
TO BE!



NO!



IT
DIDN'T
USED TO BE
LIKE THIS.
THE
SHIN AND
REI USED
TO BE
BEST
FRIENDS!



THERE
ARE LOTS
OF THINGS
THAT PUSHED
HIM OVER THE
EDGE, BUT
ONE OF THEM
WAS MY
FAULT.

THAT'S
WHAT
BROUGHT
ALL THIS
ON...

AND
HOMURABI
WAS MUCH
NICER...IF
A LITTLE
HIGH-
STRUNG...



ASH

YOU
JUST
DON'T
KNOW,
SHIKKY.



UNTIL A FEW DAYS AGO, YOU WERE HAVING THE TIME OF YOUR LIFE WITH THIS TELLING ME OTHERWISE NOW ISN'T VERY CONVINCING.



WHO CARES, ANYWAY?

SHIN AND REI WERE FRIENDS WHO THE HELL WANTS TO BE FRIENDS?



HEH. IT'S STUPID.



I DON'T WANT ANYTHING TO DO WITH IT.



SO
ONCE
MORE—
JUST
ONCE...

I WANT
HOMURABI
TO SMILE
LIKE HE
USED TO!

BUT
I DON'T
WANT
TO LET IT
END LIKE
THIS!

IT MIGHT
BE HARD TO
BRING THINGS
BACK AFTER
ALL THAT HAS
HAPPENED...



I DON'T
WANT TO
BE FRIENDS
WITH THE
REI OR YOU
GUYS.

PEOPLE
WHO HAVE
FRIENDS
ARE JUST
LAME
LOSERS.

THEY'RE
SO PITIFUL
THEY DIS-
GUST ME.



YOU'RE
BETTER
OFF
DEAD.



FEH!

I
THOUGHT
YOU KNEW
BETTER
THAN THIS,
DUDU.



I DUNNO
WHAT THE
HELL HAP-
PENED TO
YOU, BUT
YOU'RE
TOTALLY
LAME
NOW.



YOU
NEED TO SHUT
YOUR MOUTH.

I DON'T
CARE HOW
SELFISH
OR STUPID
YOU ARE...

HUHP?



BUT I
WON'T LET
SOMEBODY
LIKE YOU
INSULT MY
FRIENDS!



THAT'S
ENOUGH!



SO NOW
I THINK I
DON'T HAVE
TO WORRY
ABOUT
HOLDING
BACK.



SO
WHAT?

YOU
LOST LAST
TIME. WHO
CARES
WHAT YOU
THINK?



YOU
REALLY
PISS
ME OFF,
KID.





#044: Appearances Are Important



HAH!



YOU'RE
PRETTY
FUNNY.



...THAT
THE EVEN
THE TWO
OF YOU
TOGETHER
CAN'T
BEAT
ME!

THEN
I'LL
SHOW
YOU...









OUT
OF THE
WAY!







BUT I'M
BORED
NOW.



EVEN
SO...



I CAN
RESPECT
THAT YOU
SAVE IT
A GOOD
GO.



...!
SHIKKY,
STOP!



SO
NOW
I'LL DO
THIS FOR
REAL.



SURE
ARE.

WHAT? SO
SHOCKED
YOU CAN'T
SPEAK?

NO...
BUT
HONEST-
LY...

APPEAR-
ANCES ARE
IMPORTANT,
AREN'T THEY,
AY&P?



BUT...



NOW
THAT HE
LOOKS LIKE
THAT, WE
CAN POUND
HIM FLAT
WITHOUT
ANY WEIRD
GUILT.

*He looks
really stupid!*



I MEAN,
YOU CAN
TELL
YOURSELF
HE'S OLDER
THAN HE
LOOKS...

BUT
JUST THE
FACT THAT
HE LOOKS
LIKE A KID
MAKES YOU
HOLD BACK,
RIGHT
KENGOP?









AT
LEAST
UNTIL
THE SKIN
SETS.



YOU
SHOULD
STAY
STILL...

OW...



HE TORE
OFF THE
PARASITE
KOKUCHI.

WELL,
WE LEFT A
MINIMUM
THERE TO
KEEP YOU
ALIVE.

SINCE
YOU ARE A
SHIN, WHAT
REMAINS
WILL SOON
BE AB-
SORBED
INTO YOUR
BODY.



WHAT
HAPPEN-
ED?

WHAT
DID
YOU-



YOU
OWE A
GREAT
DEAL TO
AKIRA.



IT WAS
LEFT AS A
REPLACE-
MENT FOR
THE ARM I
CUT OFF.













FOLLOW
ME.

WHAT?

I'LL
TAKE
YOU...

TO THE
PALACE.

